2004 Report of Accomplishments Ferry Conservation District

Natural Resource Improvements in 2004 - Summary

- Successfully completed additional river bank restoration as well as fish and wildlife habitat improvement on two cooperators' property.
- Completed the project management over the Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Council's Subbasin Plans for the Intermountain Province (six subbasins in the blocked waters behind Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee dams).
- Assisted landowners to secure funding for EQIP, 3F2P, and other program funding to complete current and future projects.



Picture: Wetland education project on the District Property – learning wetland delineation.

Mission of the Ferry Conservation District

• Promote the conservation of renewable natural resources as a key element in providing conditions conducive to sustainable rural lifestyles, profitable local business, and a healthy environment.

Water Quality Implementation

- One project continued to treat over one-half mile of the Kettle River, increasing fish and wildlife habitat, while protecting the banks and two pump stations, and preventing several tons of soil loss.
- Serving 7 cooperators by installing Best Management Practices (BMP) that will protect, enhance, and/or restored over a mile of lake and stream banks, and provided additional fish & wildlife habitat.

Basic Funding

- Educate and train landowners in the proper planning, design, and implementation of BMP projects.
- FCD utilized the basic funding to successfully write grants that were awarded for implementing numerous projects on both private and public lands. The funding awarded far exceeds that of the Basic and Implementation funding we receive from the Commission. This is used to extend our abilities to assist with implementation, and help landowners and agencies get high prioritized projects implemented that lack adequate funds.

Local Funding

- FCD was awarded a \$337,000 contract from the Northwest Power Planning and Conservation
 Council to oversee agencies, tribes, and conservation districts in the Subbasin Planning processes
 within the Intermountain Province (IMP). The plans were completed and submitted in August 2004.
- This process includes the creation of management plans, and the preparation for BPA funding that is committed to be spent in our subbasins for implantation projects to develop, restore, or enhance fish & wildlife habitat, lake and stream restoration, etc. This funding can be used in partnerships with different tribes and agencies to leverage other funding, and expand the funding we have already secured to treat more and more land and water; as well as purchase conservation easements, etc.
- FCD has agreed to become the Lead Entity for the Family, Fish, and Forest, Protection Program. We are currently working with 2 landowners, DNR, and WA Fish & Wildlife to complete projects.

Professional Engineering

- The most significant accomplishment with this funding was the Kettle River Riparian project referenced above.
- FCD is providing engineering designs for 4 cooperators; while others are on a waiting list. Two culvert replacements and two river restoration/habitat development projects are being implemented with Best Management Practices (BMP) at this time.
- FCD utilized private engineering contractors until the N.E. Area Association Engineer was hired.

District Property

- Utilized the local Job Corps crews and other volunteers to maintain our district nursery on the district property to provide plantings for future water quality, restoration, and habitat development projects.
- Utilized the property for several educational and training events.
- Working with EPA funding to do a wetlands assessment and establish a baseline reference for future reference, planning, and additional education opportunities. We have schools from the west side of the state utilize our property for these types of programs as well.
- Re-channeled a stream to provide fish spawning and wildlife habitat, and demonstrate streambank stabilization, to include native plantings. Utilized the local Job Corps crews to assist with the stabilization demonstration and additional planting projects.
- Started planning on a second District property on the Kettle River near the Canadian border.

Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration

- The stream re-channeling project above (District Property) is part of an education and demonstration site for informing and training landowners what options they have on their own sites. The project has several examples of stream bank stabilization BMP's implemented into the banks of the stream. This site is easily accessed by the public.
- Began the planning and implementation of watershed conservation/habitat restoration projects in the San Poil Watershed (including on the Colville Confederated Tribes Reservation) with grant funding from the Dept. of Ecology (DOE) Centennial Clean Water Funds. FCD created a Management Team for local agencies and the Colville Confederated Tribes to provide guidance to these projects.
- We are and will continue to use the Conservation Commission funding to assist with these projects.

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- Continued participating in the 2514 WRIA 60 process, and Ferry County's Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) project.
- Partnered with Ferry County PUD and completed a fuel feasibility study for fuel availability in the use of biomass for power co-generation. Assist groups such as North Ferry Enterprise Committee, Curlew Lake Association, Kettle River Advisory Board, Cattleman's Association, Farm Bureau, and Upper Columbia RC&D.

Information & Education

- Lake Roosevelt Water Festival reached over 700 fourth graders throughout our region for two days.
- Participated in the annual Ferry County Fair; sponsored the annual Plant Sale that attract participants from Stevens, Ferry, and Okanogan Counties, as well as many of our non-resident landowners from the west side of the state. Participated in Inchelium Day on the Colville Indian Reservation, Echo Bay Minerals Arbor Day.
- Served as Project Manager for the Intermountain Province Subbasin Planning process, attended the Stakeholder Work Team meetings for the San Poil and Upper Columbia Subbasins, and assisted the local agencies and public in the completion of the plans.

Washington Conservation Districts assisting Land Managers with their conservation choices

Picture: Job Corps crews working on stream channel revetment and riparian/demonstration project on the District's property at the southern end of Curlew Lake.

